

U.S.S.N. 09/807,558

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent which reduces sympathetic nervous system activity.
2. (currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1 wherein the agent which reduces sympathetic nervous system activity is any one or more of the following compounds selected from the group consisting of: a compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone ~~such as an aldosterone antagonist;~~ a chymase inhibitor; a cathepsin inhibitor; a β receptor blocker; an imidazoline receptor antagonist; a centrally acting α receptor antagonist; a peripherally acting α receptor antagonist; a ganglion blocking agent; ~~a drug that has an effect on cardiovascular reflexes and thereby reduce SNS activity such as an opiate;~~ scopolamine; endothelin receptor antagonist; a xanthine oxidase inhibitor; and erythropoietin.
3. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a~~ wherein the compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone, ~~such as is an~~ aldosterone antagonist.
4. (currently amended) A The method according to Claim 3 wherein the aldosterone antagonist is selected from the group consisting of ~~compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone is any one of~~ spironolactone, testolactone, RU40555, RU26752, canrenoate, eplerenone, 3-(17 β -hydroxy-3-oxoandrosta-1,4,6,11-tetraen-17 α -yl) propionic acid γ lactone, 3-

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(9- α -fluoro-17 β -hydroxy-3-oxo-androsta-4-en-17 α -yl) propionic acid γ lactone, dihydro-spirorenone, spirorenone, 15,16-methylene derivatives of spironolactone, mespirenone and SC9420.

5. (withdrawn) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a chymase inhibitor.
6. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 5 wherein the chymase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting any one of alendronate, aprotinin and tissue inhibitors of matrix metalloproteinases.
7. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a cathepsin inhibitor.
8. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 7 wherein the cathepsin B inhibitor is any one selected from the group consisting of an epoxy succinyl peptide such as CA-074 or E64-c, stefin A and cystatin C.
9. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a β receptor blocker.
10. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 9 wherein the β receptor blocker is any one selected from the group consisting of acebutolol, alprenolol,

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atenolol, betaxolol, bisoprolol, carteolol, celiprolol, esmolol, labetalol, lavobunolol, metipranolol, metoprolol, nadolol, oxprenolol, penbutolol, pindolol, propranolol, sotalol, timolol, nebivolol, carvedilol and bucindolol.

11. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an imidazoline receptor antagonist.
12. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 11 wherein the imidazoline receptor antagonist is ~~any one~~ selected from the group consisting of moxonidine, rilmenidine, pentamidine and α -methyl dopa.
13. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an imidazoline receptor antagonist.
14. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 13 wherein the centrally acting α receptor agonist is clonidine.
15. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a peripherally acting α receptor antagonist.
16. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 15 wherein the peripherally acting α receptor antagonist is ~~any one~~ selected from the group consisting of doxazosin, prazosin, terazosin and ipsapirone.

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17. (withdrawn) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a ganglion blocking agent.

18. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 17 wherein the ganglion blocking agent is any one selected from the group consisting of azamethonium, dicolinium, hexamethonium, mecamlamine, pentamethonium, pentolinium, trimetaphan, benzohexonium, hexafluorenum, cypenam, trimethaphan canfosulfonate, tetrachylammonium bromide and synapleg.

19. (currently amended) ~~A The method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a~~
wherein the drug reduces sympathetic nervous system activity drug that has an effect on by
affecting cardiovascular reflexes and thereby reduces SNS activity.

20. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 ~~of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an opiate.

21. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 20 wherein the opiate is any one selected from the group consisting of dihydrocodeine, morphine, diamorphine and buprenorphine.

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22. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of ~~treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of scopolamine.
23. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of ~~treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an endothelin receptor antagonist.
24. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the ET-1 receptor antagonist is ~~any one~~ selected from the group consisting of butenolide, BQ123, BQ-788, A-216546, AHT-627, IRL3461, LU135252, S-0139, T-0201, PD 142,893, PD 164333, RO 61-1790, PD 156,707, SB 209670, IRL 1038 and WS-7338 B.
25. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of ~~treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a xanthine oxidase inhibitor.
26. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 25 wherein the xanthine oxidase inhibitor is ~~any one~~ selected from the group consisting of allopurinol, 7,8-dihydroneopterin, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, leukopterin, xanthopterin, neopterin, biopterin, 4-amino-6-hydroxypyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine (AHPP) and oxypurinol.
27. (withdrawn - on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of ~~treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method~~ comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of erythropoietin.

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28. (cancelled) A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising electrically stimulating the patient's muscles.

29. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the underlying disease is ~~any one selected from the group consisting of~~ AIDS, liver cirrhosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with or without emphysema, chronic renal failure, chronic infections, cancer, heart disease including hypertension and chronic heart failure.

30. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the patient has idiopathic cachexia.

31. (currently amended) ~~A~~ ~~The~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the underlying disease is chronic heart failure and the patient has cardiac cachexia.

Claims 32-47. (cancelled)